

AN (14)
ORDINANCE

Ordained, Devised, and Made

BY THE

Master, and Keepers or Wardens,
and Commonalty of the MYSTERY
or ART of

STATIONERS

OF THE

CITY

OF

LONDON,

For the Well Governing of
that SOCIETY.

LONDON:

Printed for the Company of Stationers. 1683.

AN

ORDINANCE

BY THE

Mayor, and Keepers of the Records
and Commonalty of the City of
LONDON

STATUTORS

OF THE

CITY

OF

LONDON

For the Well Governing of
the CITY.

LONDON:

Printed for the Company of Stationers.

TO all Christian People to whom these Presents shall come, *We the Right Honourable, Sir Francis North Knight, Lord Keeper of the Great Seal of England, Sir Edmund Saunders Knight, Lord Chief Justice of His Majesties Court of Kings Bench, and Sir Francis Pemberton Knight, Lord Chief Justice of His Majesties Court of Common Pleas at Westminster, send Greeting.* Whereas in a Statute made in the Parliament holden at Westminster in the Nineteenth Year of the Reign of the late King of Famous Memory, Henry the Seventh, for the Weal and Profit of his Subjects, It was (amongst other things) Ordained, Established, and Enacted, That no Master, Wardens and Fellowships of Crafts or Mysteries, or any of them, or any Rulers of Guilds and Fraternities, should take upon them to make any Acts or Ordinances, nor to execute any Acts or Ordinances then aforemade, in Disinheritance or Diminution of the Prerogative of the King, nor of any other, nor against the Common Profit of the People, Except the same Acts or Ordinances be Examined and

Approved by the Chancellor or Treasurer of Eng-
 land, or Chief Justices of either Benches, or
 Three of them, or before both the Justices of
 Assize in their Circuit or Progress in the Shire
 where such Acts or Ordinances be made, upon
 pain of Forfeiture of Forty Pounds for every
 time that they do contrary, (as by the said Sta-
 tute more plainly doth and may appear.) Now
 know ye, That the Master, and Keepers or
 Wardens, and Commonalty of the Mystery or
 Art of Stationers of the City of London, Wil-
 ling and desiring that the said Act of Parlia-
 ment be in all things duly observed and kept,
 The Tenth day of February, in the Five and
 Thirtieth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign
 Lord CHARLES the Second, by the Grace
 of God, of England, Scotland, France, and
 Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c.
 Annoq; Dom. One Thousand Six Hundred
 Eighty Two, for the better Regulating and Or-
 dering of the Corporation of them the said
 Master, and Keepers or Wardens, and Commo-
 nalty of the Mystery or Art of Stationers of
 the City of London, and for the preventing
 of Abuses and Misdemeanours in and about
 Printing, Have Presented unto us this under-
 written Ordinance by them Ordained, Devised,
 and

(3)

and Made for the well-governing of their Corporation and Society, and every Member thereof, and have made their Humble Suit and Request to us to Examine, Correct, Amend, and to Approve thereof in such manner and form, as by the said Act of Parliament made in the said Nineteenth Year of King Henry the Seventh, is required. We therefore well considering and approving the said Supplication to be good and reasonable, according to their desire, and by the Authority of the said Act of Parliament to us given, the same Ordinance under-written, so to us exhibited, have seen, read, and examined; The Tenor whereof hereafter followeth in these Words, (Viz.)

At

At an Assembly of the Master, and Keepers or Wardens, and Commonalty of the Mystery or Art of STATIONERS of the City of LONDON, held at their Common Hall in the Parish of St. Martin Ludgate, in the Ward of Farringdon within London, on Wednesday the Sixth day of December, Anno Dom. One Thousand Six Hundred Eighty and Two, For the well-governing of the Members of this Company, the Law and Ordinance hereafter mentioned, was then made, enacted, and ordained by the Master, and Keepers or Wardens, and Commonalty of the Mystery or Art of STATIONERS of the City of LONDON, in manner and form following, viz.

Whereas, It hath been the Ancient Usage of the Members of this Company, for the Printer or Printers, Publisher or Publishers of all Books, Pamphlets, Ballads, and Papers (except what are granted by Letters Pattents under the Great Seal of England) to Enter into the Publick Register-Book of this Company, remaining with the Clerk of this Company for the time being, in his or their own Name or Names, All Books, Pamphlets, Ballads, and Papers whatsoever, by him or them to be Printed or Published, before the same Book, Pamphlet, Ballad, or Paper is begun to be Printed, To the end that the Printer or Publisher thereof may be

be known, to justify whatsoever shall be therein contained, and have no Excuse for the Printing or Publishing thereof; which Usage this Company now taking into their Consideration, do think that the due Observation thereof may be a means to prevent the Printing and Publishing of Treasonable, Seditious, and Scandalous Books, Pamphlets, Libels, and Papers, or Discover the Printers or Publishers thereof.

It is therefore Ordained, That all and every Member or Members of this Company shall before the Printing or reprinting of any Book, Pamphlet, Ballad, or Paper (except what are granted under the Great Seal of *England* as aforesaid) in his own Person cause to be Entred into the Register-Book of this Company (remaining in the Custody of the Clerk of this Company, paying the usual Fees for the Enttring thereof) in his and their own Name and Names in words at length, the Title of all & every Book, Pamphlet, and Paper, that he or they shall hereafter Print or Publish, or cause to be Printed or Published. And to which Entry he or they shall set and subscribe his and their respective Name and Names, upon pain of for-

forfeiting to the Master and Keepers or Wardens; and Commonalty of the Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the City of *London*, Twenty pounds; to be by them Recovered by Action of Debt, to their own Uſe.

Which ſaid Ordinance in manner and form aforeſaid, made at the Requeſt of the ſaid Maſter and Keepers or Wardens, and Commonalty of the Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the City of *London*, by the Authority and Vertue of the ſaid Act of Parliament made in the Nineteenth Year of the ſaid King *Henry* the Seventh, and for the preventing of the Penalty inflicted by the aforeſaid Statute upon the Execution of Ordinances not approved, as by the ſaid Act is directed (as far forth as by Law we may) We the ſaid Lord Keeper, and Lords Chief Juſtices of either Benches, do Approve, Ratifie, and Confirm. *In Witneſs* whereof, We the ſaid Lord Keeper, and Lords Chief Juſtices of either Benches, have hereunto ſubſcribed our Names, and ſet our Seals the ſaid Tenth day of *February*, in the Five and Thirtieth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord *Charles* the Second, by the Grace of God of *England, Scotland, France, and Ireland*, King, Defender of the Faith, &c. *Annoq; Dom. 1682.*

F. North, C S.

Edm. Saunders.

Fr. Pemberton.